

# Currents

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*Megwa Ezhiweback*



*Mskomini-Giizis (Raspberry Moon)*  
July 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 6

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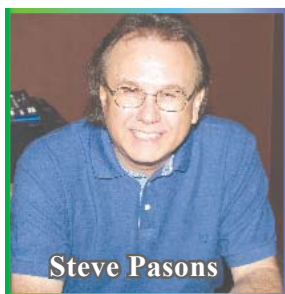
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Steve Parsons



Janine Sam



Steve Parsons

Robert Whiteloon

Candace Chapman



Pat Ruiter

Robert Hardenburgh

Virgil Johnson



Norbert Kelsey

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Manistee, Michigan 49660

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## New Tribal Leaders Installed!

At a special Tribal Council meeting held June 10, 2009 in the Three Fires Conference Room, newly elected leaders of the tribe were installed. Those installed from Council were: Janine Sam, Candace Chapman, Virgil Johnson, Norbert Kelsey and Steve Parsons. Also installed were Chief Judge Dan Bailey, Tribal Appellate Judges Melissa Pope and Martha Kase. From the Election Board, Alesia Condon, Nancy Kelsey and Diane Lonn were installed.

Following the installation feast, Steve Parsons was unanimously chosen as Tribal Council Speaker while Janine Sam beat out Candace Chapman and Loretta Beccaria in a secret ballot for the position of Tribal Council Recorder.



Aanii,  
I want to congratulate the newly elected officials of the Tribe and wish them luck in the coming years! There is much to do and I look forward to working with you.

Well, the Spring Membership Meeting is behind us and the official number of members in attendance was 372 and the total attendance was over 700, with 3,393 registered voters as of April 18th, 2009 per our Election Board.

Our membership numbers change almost daily but I'd like to give you some numbers that have been passed on to me by our Enrollment Department Director, Diane Lonn. On April 1st our membership was 3,934. At the end of January there were 2,071 females and 1,849 males in the Tribe. There were just over 750 Elders. Just a few interesting facts.

A couple of things that came out of the Membership Meeting, was that we now believe we have the ability of "streaming" live video of events of the Tribe. At the Meeting, Mack Brushman, our Audio/videographer, was able to broadcast our meeting in progress through

Ustream and George LeVasseur our MIS Director was able to bring the broadcast up on a screen on stage as I described it. This will allow members, no matter where they live, to watch meetings and events of the Tribe. For example, members could watch the election process or special events of the Tribe. I will keep you posted.

Also, Glenn Zaring reports that the Rapid River News is becoming a very effective tool for communication. The RRN can be found at our LRBOI website by going to the homepage and clicking on the Rapid River News icon. Information is posted on it weekly, it is continually being developed but response to it is very positive. We are still trying different methods of communicating and I really think we are getting where I'd like to be with communications.

Also presented at the Spring Membership Meeting was the kickoff of our Organizational Assessment/Strategic Plan. The plan is scheduled to be completed this fall, hopefully by our Fall membership meeting. The company selected to do the work is Osiyo, a native-owned firm. Leigh McGee, an owner in the company, laid out the plan and timeline for the membership in attendance. I am excited about the possibilities. Once completed, this assessment should help us to develop a reasonable 2010 budget, identify areas where we can move positions and operate more effectively. We will also have a clearer picture of our

future plans and how to get there.

I want to thank Mary Thomas, Executive Secretary, for her continued extra work in setting up the Membership Meetings, everything from booking the room to handing out gifts. She organizes the workshops with the help of others including Lee Iverson, organizes the membership sign in with Diane Lonn, and makes trips to the casino to meet with staff to ensure adequate space, food and hotel rooms are available for you, the membership. I also want to thank the other employees that arrange their time to assist with making the meetings a success. I would also like to thank Ron Pete Director of Food and Beverage and his entire staff.

On June 17th, starting at 7AM there will be a memorial walk in honor of all those children that have attended "Indian schools" throughout the United States. The "Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness" walk will take place in Mt. Pleasant spearheaded by the nonprofit group White Bison. While I did not attend these US government run boarding schools, many people I know did. My father also attended Mt. Pleasant Indian School as a child. I will be representing our Tribe and paying tribute to all those children of Michigan. There will be a 5 mile memorial forgiveness walk, prayers, and healing ceremony with Tribes of the Three Fires Confederacy taking part. At one time there were approximately 500 boarding, mission and day schools throughout the US. This day is part of a larger 40 day national campaign covering 6,800 miles. For more information go to [www.whitebison.org](http://www.whitebison.org) Miigwetch. Until next month...

## Elders Committee

*There's a new beginning for the Elders Committee of LRBOI!. The new Committee Leaders are Ron Pete, Marcella Leusby, Martha Kase, Connie Waitner and Sherman Moore. They issued this statement June 6th."*



My fellow Elders, committee members, and former committee members, guests, members of Council and our Tribal Ogema, welcome. We would like to begin this meeting by reading

a short prayer of wisdom that was sent to me by one of our government staff members.

"Great Spirit, today open my ears so I can hear the Elders."

When I read this, I was at first only thinking of the young people that are in our Tribal nation and all of our Tribal citizens were not Elders. Then I began to think and ponder this prayer and began to think about us, the Elders, ourselves. We must be the first ones to open our ears so we can listen and hear each other, only then will our people begin to listen and hear our thoughts, hopes and aspirations. We submit that it is time to not only lower our voices and not only hear, but more importantly listen to each other and our people. It is not only time but past time to stop the infighting and divisiveness, jealousies and bickering that plagues our people and our Tribe. It is no wonder that some of our people believe it is okay to display these negative emotions to each other and their fellow Tribal members. We submit to all that it is time to begin anew. We do

not have all the answers and just maybe we have none of the answers, but what we do know is that we will never succeed as a people unless we can succeed with each other first.

we also know that we must treat my fellow travelers in this life with respect, honesty and an open heart and mind.

We may disagree and the only agreement that we may ever reach with each other is to agree to disagree but, but we can be courteous, respectful and professional about it.

No great nation or people throughout history ever were conquered by an outside force. Great Nations and people fell because they could not and would not put aside their differences and they fell because of inside forces.

Mistakes have been made in the past by everyone of us. We have all fallen short at some point in our lives in whatever we may have been doing. There is not one of us here that can stake claim to perfection and if you look the word up in the dictionary I can tell you right now my picture would not be there, however that does not mean we can not strive for the ultimate place that we all seek as a nation and people. We could once again dwell on the mistakes of the past whether any of us committed them or our government committed them, and once we are done rehashing all the "bad decisions" we still end up with the same place that we started, without any progress or hope of moving forward. If we continue to follow the same path we will always end up at the same

place. That is why we are discussing this today because we would like us all to begin with anew with a firm commitment to our future. A future that can and must be attained for ourselves and all the future generations that currently exist and are yet to be born. We submit to us all that we must, as Elders, blaze a new path and leave a positive trail for all our people to follow. We must be a force for unity and compassion for our people. As Elders we all are in a unique position for being a positive force in our tribe we must be willing to use that position to help influence and shape our future for all of our people, not only Elders, but for all of us, young and old alike. Therefore, We would like to express the tone that we intend to establish for this and all the future Elders meetings. We encourage all of our Elders to bring fourth issues to be discussed, professionally and spiritedly debated, come to a consensus and then bring it forward to the proper entity and move on. We need to not only bring fourth what we perceive as problems but at the same time bring forth what we perceive as problems but at the same time bring forth solutions. Our feeling is that we need to address and act upon issues that concern our Elders and concerns of all of our people, in order for us as a group to be perceived as the ones that will bring the wisdom of our people, in order for us as a group to be perceived as the ones that will bring the wisdom of our years and collective years to our people to help begin a new path that all of us and our people will follow and emulate.



Last year, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians purchased over 200 acres in Fruitport, just outside of Muskegon for tribal development including a probable 2nd casino. The property included the Great Lakes Downs Racetrack with all of its barns, bleachers and other equipment.

The tribal government, in an effort coordinated by the Commerce Department, pulled what items could be reused or applied to tasks elsewhere in the tribe and then arranged for Muschigon Construction (a tribally-owned enterprise) to conduct a sale of the left over physical property in mid-May. Muschigon contracted Tripp Auctions, a

Michigan firm, to come in to help them organize and conduct the auction and then help the tribe to achieve as much profit as possible from the sale. They did a wonderful job of organizing and promoting the two day sale with a total sale for both days of the auction at around \$180,669.00 These amounts are preliminary figures pending final tallying which was not completed at press time.

LRBOI gets 90% of the total which equals around \$162,602.10 and 10% Commission goes to the auctioneer, Tripp or a total of approximately \$18,066.90.

Congratulations to Dave Corey, Jim Medacco and Muschigon Construction for organizing this profitable event!



## Correction on Commission Report

Last month's Commission report inadvertently listed Joe Kelsey; and whereas, it should have listed Dave Corey. The report also inadvertently listed Bonnie Kenny; and whereas, it should have listed Lee Iverson

*Attention  
all Tribal Members*


If you are interested in joining any  
of the following  
Commissions or Committees  
please submit a letter of interest  
to the Ogema's office with a copy  
going to the Tribal Council.

2 seats – Commerce Commission  
2 seats – Gaming Commission  
1 seat - Health Commission  
1 seat – Binojeeuk

*Government Closes for the  
following Holidays*

- \*New Years Day
- \*Treaty Recognition Day
- \*Memorial Day
- \*Independence Day
- \*Labor Day
- \*Reaffirmation Day (September 21<sup>st</sup>)
- \*Veteran's Day
- \*Thanksgiving Day
- \*Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- \*Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- \*Christmas Day

Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.  
Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities.  
It's always a good idea to call first if you are not sure.  
Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.







Joseph LaPorte,  
Public Safety



Eric Holder,  
Attorney General/Director

Homeland Security and two other high-ranking law officials.

During what was described as a very open and honest discussion, LaPorte answered Attorney General Eric Holder's questions about tribal law challenges and pointed out that one key problem was that a number of local jurisdictions still do not recognize the training and professionalism of well-qualified tribal officers nor even the positive contributions these officers bring to their communities. Director LaPorte pointed out how he is constantly challenged in regards to cross-deputization from local counties. Challenges which he feels have very little merit to them.

In addition, LaPorte addressed the importance of what are called "Fusion Centers" that assist with the gathering of information and funneling of that information to various departments in the nation. One key concern of the conference attendees was that departments are not adequately sharing information which could be critical to keeping our country and our people safe in the future. These Fusion Centers are a major step to improving the flow of information for Law En-

forcement and Emergency Management. LaPorte is a well respected law enforcement leader in Indian Country Law Enforcement who also sits as the head of the International Association of Chiefs of Police – Tribal section in Washington, D.C.



**Office of the  
Tribal Safety Director**  
Joseph LaPorte, Director



**United States  
Department of Justice**  
Eric Holder, Attorney General

LRBOI Tribal Public Safety Director Joseph LaPorte was invited to Washington D.C. on April 20th, 2009 to address the Attorney General Law Enforcement Summit. The summit was designed to strengthen the relationship between the Department of Justice (DOJ) and state, local and tribal authorities through, "an open dialogue about our priorities and critical issues facing our communities."

aPorte was a panelist on the Attorney Generals' discussion about "Information Sharing among State, Local, Tribal and Federal Law Enforcement: Are We Doing Enough?" Others on the panel included Ted Sexton, Assistant Secretary, State & Local Law Enforcement, Department of

4/27/09

By F/Lt. Brian J. Postma

Post Commander, Michigan State Police

## LAW ENFORCEMENT COLUMN LIMITED APPOINTMENT AGREEMENT

Recently the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the State of Michigan entered into a limited appointment agreement. Many of you may have first seen this when you read stories in the Manistee News Advocate on resolutions passed by the Filer Township Board and Manistee County Commissioners opposing the agreement.

In November of 2007 a Consent Decree was filed regarding Indian treaty hunting, fishing and gathering rights. A Consent Decree is a legal agreement which is approved by the court where one or more issues in a case is resolved. The point in question was a provision in Article 13 of the 1836 Washington Treaty that allowed Indians to reserve the "right to hunt and the usual privileges of occupancy until the land is required for settlement." This condition holds true even though the land was purchased by the State of Michigan.

The Consent Decree was filed because of on going litigation between the United States, the tribes and the State of Michigan. The dispute revolved around the meaning of when the land was "required for settlement." The Federal Courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, have held that time cannot erode the rights retained when treaties were signed.

Additionally, the court had already supported the tribal treaty rights claim, which allowed them to fish the Great Lakes. At question was the validity of treaty rights with respect to inland hunting, fishing, and gathering. Similar cases in Wisconsin and Minnesota upheld the 1836 treaty claims and allowed continued inland hunting and fishing. The State of Michigan opted to enter into the Consent Decree to foster an amicable solution that was beneficial to both the tribes and the State of Michigan.

A provision of the Consent Decree calls for the parties to "identify a mechanism by which tribal

law enforcement officers shall have the authority to: stop hunters and fishermen in the field in order to determine whether they are tribal members; enforce Tribal regulations with respect to Tribal members; and, to the extent they are deputized under applicable law, enforce State regulations with respect to non-Tribal members."

Under Michigan Law, specifically the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967, there are only two powers that can extend law enforcement authority to another entity; a local sheriff or the Michigan State Police. Now granted, this issue has more to do with conservation law than general criminal law, but the Department of Natural Resources cannot legally extend enforcement authority. Therefore, the Michigan State Police entered into this agreement for the benefit of the Department of Natural Resources and the State of Michigan.

The specific mechanism chosen by the state and Tribe to accomplish this extension of enforcement authority is a Limited Appointment Agreement. The agreement is called "limited" because it only allows tribal conservation officers to enforce one law, MCL 324. 43516.

This will authorize Tribal officers to enforce the state law that requires hunters and fishers to display a hunting or fishing license and picture identification upon the request of a law enforcement officer, regardless of whether or not the sportsperson is a tribal member. The agreement also allows State of Michigan Conservation Officers to enforce Tribal regulations when Tribal members are hunting and fishing on non-Tribal lands

Essentially, if a person is involved in hunting, trapping or fishing a tribal conservation officer can legally stop them to see if they have a hunting, fishing or trapping license. Once they determine the person is legally licensed and is not an Indian then the person is free to go.

Both the federal government and Tribal governments have maintained that Tribal conservation officers have that authority already. The Limited Appointment Agreement helps to remove all doubt regarding the authority of the Tribe's conservation officers to stop hunters and fishermen in the field in order to determine if they are Tribal members.

To make things easier for sportspeople to understand, the Michigan State Police has issued a letter on departmental letter head and requested that it be carried by the selected tribal conservation officers. The letter explains the limited appointment and the new authority extended to tribal conservation officers.

As long as people cooperate any inconvenience should be very minimal. The geographical area covered by this agreement is the 1836 ceded territory, which covers over 13.8 million acres from the northern bank of the Grand River to Marquette, including the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula and the northwestern one third of the Lower Peninsula.

An additional benefit of the Consent Decree is that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is coordinating with Tribes to research, assess and manage wildlife; implement restoration, reclamation or enhancement projects and share information. This should help preserve and improve sports gaming conditions, for the benefit of everyone and preserve Michigan's reputation as a sportsperson's paradise.

I am also on a three person committee to review any issues that arise as a result of the Limited Appointment Agreement. If you have any questions, problems or concerns please feel free to contact me at (231) 723-3535.

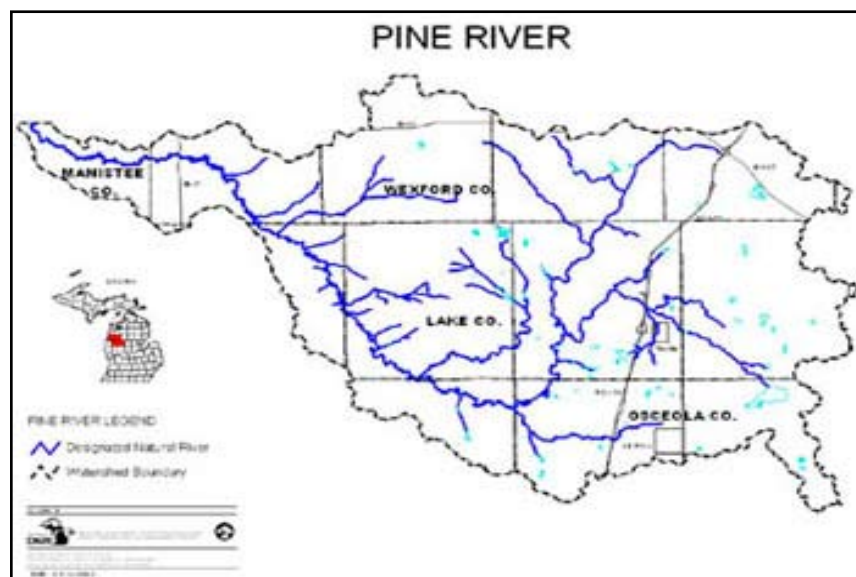
*(This column appeared in the Manistee News Advocate)*



United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Huron-Manistee National Forests  
Manistee Ranger Station  
412 Red Apple Road  
Manistee, MI 49660  
231-723-2211 (Voice)  
231-723-8642 (Fax)  
231-723-0124 (TTY)



File Code: 2300  
Date: January 30, 2009



Dear Pine River Users:  
This letter is to inform you that the reconstruction project at Low Bridge River Access Site is scheduled to begin this spring (as soon as the company can access the site), and will be completed no later than Friday, June 26, 2009. The site will be closed to all use (both public and commercial) for safety reasons for the duration of the work at this site. As a result, the use of Peterson Bridge River Access Site will also be impacted. No downstream trips will be authorized from Peterson Bridge River Access Site (or any access site) to Low Bridge River

Access Site during this period. We will reopen the site as quickly as possible after the work is completed. The Forest Service will not authorize any alternate sites (such as at Low Bridge Road, Stronach Dam Road or Sandy B's) for use during this period. The remaining river access sites authorized for launch and retrieval are: Elm Flats and Dobson Bridge. Peterson Bridge River Access Site shall be utilized for retrieval only. As funding becomes available, Elm Flats, Dobson and

Peterson Bridge River Access Sites will also be reconstructed. The reconstruction of these sites could possibly occur this summer as well. Due to the amount of work involved and hazards to the public, these sites would also require short term closures to public use. The Forest Service will ensure that not more than one site will be closed at a time. Peterson Bridge River Access Site is tentatively scheduled for closure on Monday, September 14, 2009 with a completion date of November 13, 2009. As reconstruction of these other access sites occur, it is likely that trips you already have scheduled will be impacted. We recognize that there will be short term impacts to users. The Forest Service appreciates your assistance in helping us work with the public to address these issues. We will continue to update you as information becomes available. The Forest Service believes this project will greatly enhance public enjoyment and use of the Pine River while resolving some long term issues relating to traffic flow and erosion. We appreciate your patience and flexibility during this project. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Steven Metzner at 231-723-2211 ext. 3146.  
Sincerely,  
JIM A. THOMPSON  
District Ranger



## MAPS/Tribe Partnership continues

Manistee Area Public Schools and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians have had a wonderful relationship over the years and another sign of that continuing friendship occurred today when the Tribal Council presented a check for \$3,600 to Board President Dan Duchon for the school's Track Fund and outdoor facilities.

With School Superintendent Bob Olsen and Tribal Council members Kim Alexander, Pat Ruiter, Bob Whiteloon, Robert Hardenburgh and Steve Parsons looking on, the check was handed over along with the good wishes of the tribal community. The contribution will go to fund a 3'x4' block with the Tribal Seal in the sidewalk outside the school.



Bob Olsen commented in an interview that this check is, "...just another example of the strong partnership that we have with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. We've had a long and wonderful effort to work together and do things as a team and this is just another example of when they see something that they can do to help, they step and help." "We are very appreciative of their support," he added.

Steve Parsons, a former Council Speaker, said that the tribe made the contribution because, "it was a token of our appreciation and our recognition of all that the school and Bob in particular

have done for us as a tribe...and it emphasizes our partnership with the school."

Board President Duchon added that he, "...was just so very appreciative of all that the tribe does for the community through the Revenue Sharing grants; the jobs provided for residents..." and everything else. Following the presentation, Superintendent Olsen took the Council members on a tour of the new pool facility.



During the April membership meeting, the Ogema introduced the most important work that any Nation can do with its citizens and employees: the work of moving into the future together.

“I look forward to working with the Tribal Council, tribal employees, and our membership in designing a unified and prosperous future for our People,” stated the Ogema.

Such a quest requires vision, hopefulness, consensus, and the will to believe that our tomorrow’s can be brighter than today. The Ogema and Tribal Council have agreed on an approach and timetable for designing a purposeful direction together. The project has been named, Miikanaakaw, which means “clearing a path.”

The Ogema and Tribal Council hired, OSIYO, a consulting firm specializing in management services for tribal governments and businesses. Over the next 12 months, OSIYO will work with the elected officials, executive teams, and tribal members to improve our operations and set a unified direction for the Tribe.

Miikanaakaw starts by cultivating the soil. OSIYO will review our internal operations and work with us to determine what we do well, and what we need to improve. Their team of experts will interview leadership, staff, and users to develop an understanding of tribal services and delivery systems.

The next phase is planting seeds of prosperity for our People. OSIYO will work with our teams to survey membership needs and desires for the future of the tribe. OSIYO will work with our staff to envision the tribe for the long-term and to plan for how to best move from today to where we want to be in the future.

According to the Tribal Council, “We need one plan that helps us meet the immediate needs of today without the potential of conflicting with our hopes for tomorrow.”

The final phase is about establishing guide posts in order to measure our outcomes and stay on course. OSIYO will work with our teams to set reasonable milestones for achieving our goals. We will assess our internal progress with frequency and make adjustments as necessary.

In the end, Miikanaakaw will provide us with three key outcomes:

Clear Direction – We will have a united vision & mission: our path will be straight, lit by shared principles, and guided by desired outcomes that empower our People.

Clear Communications – We will connect directly and frequently with the People by sharing information that is relevant.

Clear Accountability – We will create a game plan for delivery with goal and measurements of results to keep us moving forward and accountable to the People.

“I look forward to visioning the Nation of our highest ideals and designing steps for how we can get there – together,” the Ogema concluded.



## *Letter from the Tribal Council's Office*

Our grandchildren and their grandchildren will judge our decisions. How will we measure? Did we do everything that we could to work in unity toward a Nation of our highest ideals? Did we define our desired future and a road map to get there successfully? Did we leave a prosperous Nation for future generations?

As elected officials, we owe our constituents progressive leadership. However, we are challenged to answer to the People on

two sometimes competing fronts: immediate needs and long-term goals. Our challenge is to merge the two competing focuses into one focus. We need one plan that helps us meet the immediate needs of today without potentially conflicting with or jeopardizing our hopes for tomorrow.

This is why the Tribal Council is looking forward to working with the Ogema on Miikanaakaw – a project to unify our immediate and long-term direction of the Tribe.



## *Letter from the Ogema*

We should never take for granted the reason we exist as a People. Why have a Little River Band of Ottawa Indians? What is our purpose?

For me, the purpose of LRBOI is about a legacy of generations. The legacy of the generations who came before us, and the legacy that we will leave the generations that follow us. The legacy that I want to leave the generations to come is a purposeful and prosperous Nation.

We must be a Nation with a clear vision and determined paths for the future. I can think of no better way to immediately secure and forever sustain our Nation. We have named this work, Miikanaakaw, and I will be intimately involved.

I look forward to working with the Tribal Council, tribal employees, and our membership in designing a unified and prosperous future for our People. I look forward to visioning the Nation of our highest ideals and designing steps for how we can get there – together.

Miigwetch,  
Larry Romanelli  
Tribal Ogema



## Women's Hand Drum Retreat

July 17th—19th

Seventh Generation Program

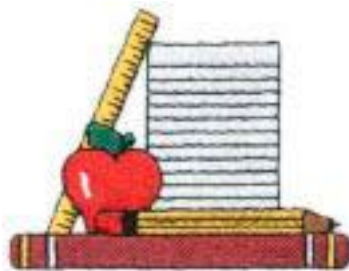
Pow Wow Grounds / Woods

Please bring a giveaway gift to share, a lawn chair, feast plates and utensils, your Drum and Shakers if you have them and camping gear.

We will be getting skirt teachings so please do not forget your skirts.



Health screening  
Drumming  
Song Sharing  
Drum Teachings  
Camping  
Talking Circle  
Sunrise Ceremony  
Feast  
Medicine Walk



## Elders Award Students

The Michigan Indian Elders Association recently awarded \$14,075 to 281 of their K – 12 students in recognition of their having achieved either straight A's, perfect attendance or both, for the first two marking periods of the current school year. There were 583 qualified entries, each earning \$25, indicating that many students qualified more than once, with several having qualified for the maximum of four awards.

The Michigan Indian Elders Association is an organization made up of the twelve federally recognized tribes/bands in the State, representing roughly 11,000 Elders.

A major focus of the Association is to bridge the gap between the youth of the tribes/bands and the Elders. The Student Incentive Award Program is one way of encouraging students to take their education seriously. In July, the Association will award an additional \$4,000 to qualifying students in the form of one \$1,000 and six \$500 scholarships.

Robert S. Menard, Chairperson  
Michigan Indian Elders Association



If you do not have a drum there will be a drum making class prior to this event on Thursday July 16th starting at 1:00pm. You must pre register for this workshop. Sign in for the retreat will begin at 8:00am Friday morning. For registration information or questions about the retreat and workshop please call 7th Generation @ 989-775-4780

This event is sponsored by the 7th Generation Program, Women's Circle, Behavioral Health, Nimkee Public Health, and Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan Domestic Violence Program

### HAND DRUM WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

July 16, 2009 @ 1:00pm

Elijah Elk Cultural Center / 7th Generation

7957 E. Remus Rd, Mount Pleasant MI 48858

lruffino@sagchip.org Ph 989-775-4780



We will be serving dinner at 5:00pm

You will receive confirmation upon receipt of this form via email or phone

All materials will be supplied by Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan DV Program

Deadline for registration is Friday July 3, 2009 by 5:00pm

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Our Women's Hand Drum Retreat will immediately follow this Workshop on July 17th—19th

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How many will be attending? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever made a Hand Drum? yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

# Community Center Progress

Mskomini-Giizis (Raspberry Moon)  
July 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 6

The new Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Community Center is nearing completion! According to Muschigon Construction, the inclement weather has delayed some of the project such as the landscaping. However, they are still expecting completion by the end of June.

This new project has been in the planning stages for several years and through a number of different designs.

Further information on the completion and dedication will be released as soon as it is available via the website [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com) and through the *Rapid River News*.



Manistee Ford-Mercury is pleased to again offer Little River of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government employees and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Members (including employee and member families) special discount pricing on new vehicles. New Ford and Mercury vehicles that are eligible for the supplier discount will be made available at that price. In addition, all parts and service customers will be given 15% off. This is valid on any non-sale or coupon related purchases. All customers must present their employee or tribal member identification prior to purchase.

**We look forward to  
assisting the entire  
Little River  
organization!"**

**Make sure to visit**

**<http://manisteeFord.dealerconnection.com/>**



**Creative i Advertising & Production**

## Indian Gaming

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN GAMING INDUSTRY



GPIGA Sho

### Michigan Business Honored In Global Telly Awards Competition

Creative i, a leading advertising & production company located in Northern Michigan's Historic Petoskey, has been recognized in the 30th Annual Telly Awards with two awards in excellence for broadcast commercial production. Two of its clients, Little River Casino Resort, and Northern Michigan Sports Medicine, were recognized in campaigns written and produced by the Creative i Creative Director, Roger Tallman. "Leaving lasting impressions is what our clients pay us to do," says Tallman. "Our entire creative team makes sure that our clients' messages are clear, and memorable, and getting recognition from a global competition like The Telly's is icing on the cake. It's very cool and I am very proud of all the work we deliver." ♣

**231.347.9791 [www.creativei.tv](http://www.creativei.tv)**





## Obama wants to pump \$475M into Great Lakes cleanup



By JOHN FLESHER, AP  
Environmental Writer John  
Fletcher, AP Environmental  
Writer – 2 hrs 10 mins ago

**T R A V E R S E**  
**CITY, Mich.** – A budget proposal from the Obama administration would spend \$475 million on beach cleanups, wetlands restoration and removal of toxic

sediments from river bottoms around the Great Lakes.

The spending represents a first step toward a multiyear campaign to repair decades of damage to the battered ecosystem. It also seeks to ward off new threats by preventing exotic species invasions and cutting down on erosion and runoff.

Obama's 2010 budget released in February requested the \$475 million for a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, focusing on the region's most pressing environmental problems. When added to existing programs such as sewer system upgrades, it would push annual federal spending on the lakes past \$1 billion.

The Environmental Protection Agency recently provided more details on how the new money would be used. Government officials and activists from the region analyzed the plan Thursday in a conference call with reporters.

"These are exactly the kind of measures we need to return the Great Lakes to health," said Andy Buchsbaum, co-chairman of the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition. "This is not a long shot. This is the president putting the full weight of his office behind Great Lakes restoration."

Supporters urged the region's congressional delegation to fight for complete funding, saying the backing of a popular president from a Great Lakes state — Illinois — has opened a unique window of opportunity.

"It's very important and urgent to move forward right now," said David Ullrich, executive director of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative. "The big thing about these problems is that they don't go away, they get worse."

Obama's plan is designed to begin a \$20 billion restoration plan crafted by government agencies and nonprofit groups in 2005.

Much of the 2010 money would be funneled through state, local and tribal agencies. The biggest chunk — about \$147 million — would clean up toxic spots in rivers and streams.

Other spending would include \$105 million for habitat and wildlife protection and restoration; \$97 million for prevention of near-shore pollution such as farm runoff and erosion; \$60 million to battle and prevent invasive species; and \$65 million to evaluate and monitor the initiative's progress.



Some of the specific goals include: restoring 23,000 acres of coastal, wetland, shoreline and upland habitat for wildlife and 1,000 miles of streams for fish passage; removing up to 1 million cubic yards of contaminated sediments; and cleaning up sources of contaminants at over 100 beaches that were closed five or more days in 2007.

Other measuring sticks include the extent and severity of algae blooms that suck oxygen from the lakes and kill fish.

Supporters dismissed suggestions that congressional approval of the spending might be hampered by the soaring budget deficit or opposition from other regions.

The federal government has supported cleanups of numerous watersheds, such as Puget Sound and Chesapeake Bay, said George Kuper, director of the Council of Great Lakes Industries.

The initiative would give industry and job growth a boost in the Great Lakes region, home to about 40 million people, Kuper said. Studies estimate that every dollar spent on restoring the lakes will generate twice as much in long-term economic gains, he said.

"It may not be obvious, but what is good for the ecosystem is also good for the economy," Kuper said.

## Year-round Adopt-a-Beach™ Program



**Celebrate your love for the Great Lakes by adopting a beach!**

It's fun. It's easy. And here's how it works: Adopters commit to multiple visits per year. During the visits, adopters use Alliance forms to collect data on different aspects of their beach. Adopt-a-Beach™ teams are from all walks of life including: individuals, families, businesses and community groups.

**1. Investigate beach health:** Answer questions that help identify possible pollution sources at your beach.

**2. Tidy up a bit:** At each visit, litter is collected, recorded and recycled or disposed of properly.

**3. Check the water:** Using a simple test, investigate bacteria levels in the water. High bacteria levels can cause beach closings and swimming bans.

Please contact your state coordinator for more information about adopting a beach:

**Illinois and Indiana:**  
Frances Canonizado: fcanonizado@greatlakes.org  
or 312-939-0838 ext. 228

**Michigan:**  
Jamie Cross: jcross@greatlakes.org  
or 616-850-0745 ext. 12

**Ohio:**  
April Mather: amather@greatlakes.org  
or 216-630-8140

**Wisconsin:**  
Todd Brennan: tbrennan@greatlakes.org  
or 414-559-0317

We are currently making improvements to the Adopt-a-Beach™ Program. As a result, our online database is off-line. To get new visit forms and learn more about our changes, contact your state coordinator for the Adopt-a-Beach™ Program.





## Certificate of Appreciation

is awarded to

# Happy Administrative Professionals Day!

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Tribal Ogema

On this Administrative Professionals Day, 2009, the Employee Recognition Committee would like to thank you for your work and dedication. You are the backbone of our organization and we are grateful for your contributions. Thank you for your service to the organization working and moving forward for our people and our nation.

Thank you for your service



Memorial Day weekend in Manistee was truly a salute to all of our men and women who serve in the Military and Public Safety. Throughout the weekend events were held demonstrating equipment and techniques; holding open houses and honoring our 'Heroes.'

From LRBOI, Public Safety K-9 Officer Craig Mayo and his partner 'Britt' thrilled a group assembled at the 5<sup>th</sup> street beach park with demonstrations of tactics used in tracking, narcotics detection and suspect control. Mayo had some of the children participate in a search technique that depended upon Britt's wonderful nose. Then the Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melissa Reed stepped forward to demonstrate how Britt brings a fleeing suspect under control. Kudos to her for having the guts to participate, because the look on her face was priceless when Britt grabbed her arm!

Later in the weekend, a parade made its way through downtown Manistee and ended up at the Veterans Memorial across the river. There, in a very moving ceremony, veterans of our wars were recognized and honored.

Warriors Society Commander Al Medacco joined the assembled dignitaries at the Gazebo and participated in the decoration of a memorial wreath in honor of our tribes' fallen soldiers.

In a perfect counterpoint to the shoreside ceremony, the large US Coast Guard patrol boat and the Tribal S.A.F.E. boat were on the river behind the gazebo and laid wreaths honoring the warriors onto the waters. On board the tribal boat were Warrior Society members Virgil Johnson and Ferdinand



## Our 'Team' Wins Big

For several years, the Tribal Public Safety Department has been fortunate to have a top Police Canine team on the force. Officer Craig Mayo and his dog "Britt" have been very visible throughout the region working narcotics investigations and other venues that require the specialized training of a Police Dog team. Now the K-9 team has won some awards for us!

In a recent competition in Kalamazoo, the team took 1<sup>st</sup> place in a team event where they are 'teamed' with another K-9 unit. Then Mayo and Britt took an individual 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy for Narcotics Detection. The event was the United States Police Working Dog Association, PD2 competition. Another event is coming to Ludington yet this summer and that will be for the PD1 competition.

PD 2 competition consists of narcotics searches in vehicles and buildings and tracking. PD1 competition is a bit lengthier and consists of light work, obedience, handling, box searches and agility.



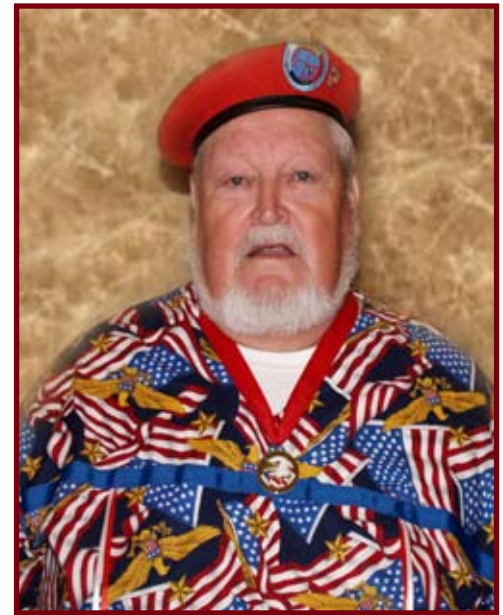
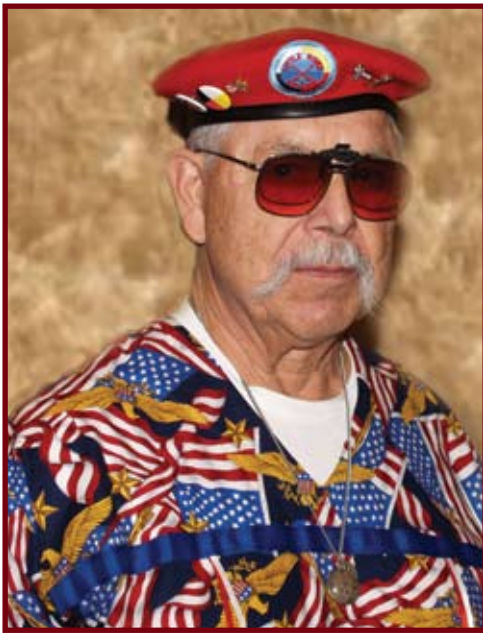
Certification in the USPCA is unique in that it is the only Canine Certification that is recognized by the United States Supreme Court. To learn more about the organization go to their website at <http://www.uspcak9.com/>. Mayo and Britt are also members of the International Police Work Dog Association. Their website is <http://www.ipwda.org/>.

Public Safety Director Joseph LaPorte commented on the team and said that, "Officer Mayo is a prime example of a young officer who has repeatedly demonstrated that he is willing to step up to the plate and to go 'above and beyond' in his profession. Our department is very proud of his contribution to our successful law enforcement efforts."

As this story is being written, Officer(s) Mayo and Britt are assisting Grand Traverse County's K-9 Team in a school search at T.C. West Senior High School. They are also planning on attending a week-long training event at Camp Grayling in June that is put on as part of the IPWDA.

This was only the second year of competition for Officer Mayo and Britt. Mayo said that this year they were not nervous and Britt actually had a ball with the competition. They are looking forward to more opportunities.



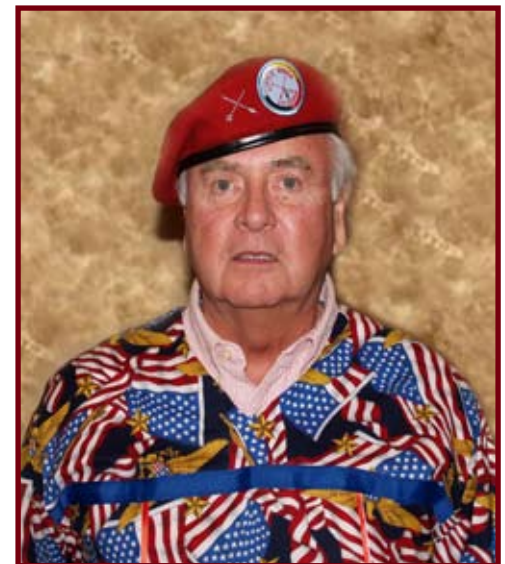
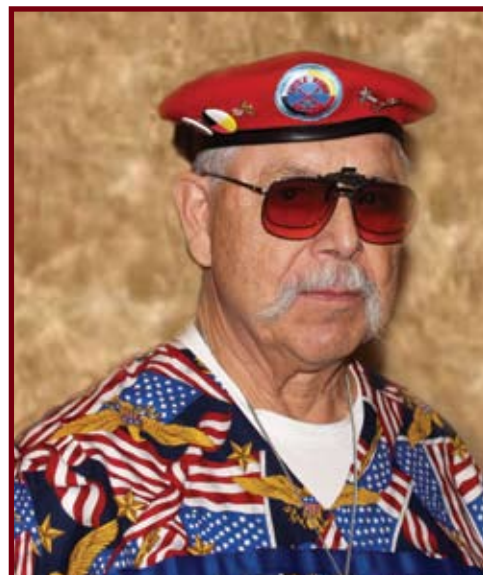


The Warriors Society is gathering photographs of members to be used when their office opens. Please send photos of our Warriors either in uniform or in civilian dress to the:

*Little River Band of Ottawa  
Indians, Warriors Society,  
375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660.*



**Buy your LRBOI flag from the  
Warrior's Society now for only  
\$50 plus S&H!**











## Members Assistance Department Current Assistance Programs



### From the Office of Members Assistance

#### ~LIHEAP Cooling Component~

Notice to Tribal Elders- Please see LIHEAP Cooling Assistance below. This is a new component to the LIHEAP program specifically designated to assist elders.

#### ~LIHEAP Funding Status~

In October the tribe was awarded LIHEAP funding for the 08-09 heating season in the amount of \$47,180.00. This funding assists members residing in the 9 county service areas. To date assistance has been provided to 102 low income households and 46 households in crisis status. We are down to 5% of the awarded funding in the heating component of this program and this program cycle ends September 30<sup>th</sup>. We will exhaust this grant very soon. If you foresee a situation where you will have difficulty in paying a utility bill, please contact your utility provider to discuss options that may be available to you for payment plans or budget plans. The Tribe applies for LIHEAP funding on an annual basis and anticipates an award in October, however due to the economy the funds are utilized quickly.

#### ~Application Processing~

To ensure a quick program determination it is important that the proper supporting documentation is submitted with the application. Examples of documents continually missing are: copies of drivers license/state ID including back of card when address has changed, complete copy of utility bill (back and front), copy of all income resources including statements of assistance provided by state agencies and applicable notarized zero income forms.

The application coversheet and also noted in the application lists the required supporting documents needed in making an eligibility determination. Applications received with supporting documents missing will not be processed. If the supporting documents are missing, the applicant is notified and the application is set aside until all documents are received. This is to ensure that the process does not delaying applications that are submitted correctly.

#### ~Food Assistance Program~

The Food Assistance Program has assisted hundreds of low income households struggling to make ends meet. When applicable this assistance can work in conjunction with other tribal and state programs.

The goal of this program is to assist our members in their time of need, especially for those who are experiencing a dietary/food crisis. As a helpful reminder the purchase of non-food items and failure to submit proof of purchase can result in prosecution, denial of services and/or reimbursement to the tribe for assistance accessed. Eligible applicants are given thorough instructions on the use of the program as well as verbal explanation by Intake Clerks. The number of non-compliance cases is minimal however ONE non-compliance case is too many for a program that is well defined, easy to use and of a great benefit to our members. A positive prospective when viewing this program is that when resources are short, utilizing this program as specified will assist a household in freeing up or providing opportunity to save their own resources for those incidentals that come up. When the program is accessed in complete compliance, it is a successful indicator that the assistance is meeting the needs of the members.

#### ~Per Capita Direct Deposit~

For the April disbursement there was only 500 direct deposits one file. This represents less than 15% of the eligible members utilizing this service. The convenience of direct deposit could benefit you by eliminating trips to the bank, possible lost or stolen checks and quick accessibility to the funding through your bank card. Another benefit is the disbursement will arrive at your bank the day of the disbursement which eliminates the in-route mailing of up to 3 days. The tribe is always searching for ways to cut down on expenses so another benefit to take into consideration is that direct deposit saves the tribe money by eliminating the cost for check stock. The individuals who receive direct deposit are mailed a paper register of the check but it is not the actual check stock. The potential savings if the membership were to go to direct deposit would be the cost of check stock for over 3000 checks mailed at each quarterly disbursement. (Over 12,000 per capita checks mailed in a calendar year)

If you have any questions, please contact our office at anytime.  
Miigwetch,  
Lee A. Iverson  
Members Assistance Coordinator

### Assistance Programs Currently Available

Programs are available in ALL STATES with the exception of the grant funded programs as noted in program listing. Programs are subject to available funding approved in the program year budget.

#### \*Food Assistance Program

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a dietary/food crisis. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. If household is receiving food assistance from another agency, it is the responsibility of the applicant to verify with agency to ensure accessing this program will not affect current benefits. Submission of receipts is a requirement of this program. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Amount of assistance: Up to \$300.00 per year; per household.

#### \*Low Income Energy Assistance Program

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing an energy crisis. Assistance may be accessed once per year up to maximum amount not to exceed \$300. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Received a shut off notice from utility vendor
- Received a denial from an outside agency for utility assistance
- Amount of assistance: Up to \$300.00 per year; per household.

#### \*Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and experiencing a housing crisis. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. Program may be access once every two years. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Received a court ordered eviction or foreclosure notice
- Relocation to affordable housing
- Relocation due to loss of housing due to natural disaster
- Relocation due to substandard housing as documented by an inspector
- If program has been accessed in the past, received a denial from an outside agency for assistance.
- Amount of assistance: Equivalent to one month's rent or mortgage payment not to exceed program maximum program amount available to prevent or resolve housing crisis.



**HOUSEHOLD INCOME- (Trially funded programs)** – Household income eligibility determination is based on three (3) months income prior to application. Applicant must provide proof of income for three months. Applicant and/or permanent household member shall complete the zero income form for periods within the three months where there is no income generated. Income requirement includes all individuals in household age 18 and older.

**Deductions from Gross Income:** Child support paid out and unreimbursed medical bills.

\*Program can be accessed by the Parent or Guardian of a member who has not reached the age of 18 or the legal guardian of a member who has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to require legal guardian over the person and/or affairs, provided that the guardian is not the State of Michigan or other state government. This information must be on file with the Enrollment Department.

## ~THE FOLLOWING ARE GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO THE NINE COUNTY SERVICE AREAS OF MICHIGAN~

**NOTE\*\* LIHEAP funds are available in all counties of Michigan, for the counties outside of the Tribal 9 county service areas the local Department of Health and Human Services administers this program under their guideline rules. LIHEAP is also available in all states through their local Health and Human Services and Housing Authorities.**

### \*LIHEAP

**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (Heat Source – Natural Gas, Propane, Electric, Coal, Fuel Oil and Wood)**

This is a grant funded program to provide assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a heating crisis and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)

-Amount of assistance varies according to individual income level, number of family members and available funding.

-Priority is given to Elders, Disabled and Single parents of young children.

-Eligible if someone in the household is receiving SSI benefits or are receiving Food Stamps

### LIHEAP –

**Cooling Assistance LIHEAP Component- Tribal Elders**

This is a grant funded component of LIHEAP to provide assistance to Tribal Elders who meet the eligibility requirements, have a medical condition that require air conditioning during hot summer months, are experiencing an energy crisis due to additional energy burden to operate the cooling system and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)

-Amount of assistance varies according to individual income level, number of family members and available funding.

-Medical condition and need for air conditioning must be certified and documented by medical professional.

**- Assistance is available May 1, 2009 thru September 30, 2009.**

### Well and Septic Program

The Well and Septic is an Indian Health Services (IHS) funded program. This program promotes health and safety for our tribal members by providing new or renovated sanitation facilities (Well and Septic). This program is available in the nine county service areas. Applicant must be:

- Enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- Reside in the nine county service areas (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)
- Home must be the primary residence of applicant – (Reside in year around)
- Ownership of home/site must be in the tribal member's name.
- Project Site meets the I.H.S Eligibility Requirements.

A complete application and the supporting documents must be submitted in order to process assistance request in a timely manner. Supporting documents are listed on the cover page of the application.

Please contact the Members Assistance Department for program information and/or to request an application. Applications and Program Regulations are available online at [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com) Members Assistance link

### Other Services:

- Referral assistance in finding assistance organizations and/or agencies to assist with needs that are not readily available or provided through tribal programs.
- Interdepartmental Referral Services that provided interdepartmental coordination and collaboration with tribal service departments when assisting members.
- Per Capita Information & Distribution Coordination for payments.

### Department Staff

**Lee A. Iverson – Members Assistance Coordinator**

**Amber Moore – Intake Clerk**

**Linda Wissner – Intake Clerk**

**Office Hours Mon thru Thurs 8 am to 5 pm**

**Phone: 231-723-8288 or**

**Toll Free 888-723-8288**



## Grand Valley American Indian Lodge 48th annual Traditional Pow Wow

**Sept. 12th and 13th, 2009**

**Riverside Park  
Grand Rapids MI**

**Contact: Lori 616-364-4697  
email wabushna@aol.com**

**Head staff to be announced at a later date**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

**Lori Shustha-Council Director, GVAIL**



## Attention



**Tribal Members receiving Education Benefits: If you are enrolled in a degree program, a direct mailing was sent to you announcing the new Internship Educa-**

**tion Program through the Department of Commerce. The new eligibility guidelines were included in the mailing, and can be found at [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com) at the Commerce link. Reminder: the two-part applications must be sent back to the Department of Commerce by May 8, 2009. Please contact Robert J. Memberto at 888/723/8288 (ext. 6806) if you have additional questions**

## Glory in Glass



Austen says that, "This is the first of a project of eight stained glass windows I have been commissioned to do for Mt. Pleasant Public Schools.

I have to do two of this same Eagle design so in the picture you can see the smaller one is done (it is complete and ends where its edges are flat) but the design continues out almost to the edges of the table, this will be the final size of the second window. So you can see how much bigger the eagle's wings will be in the next one. The windows will be installed in Mary McGuire elementary and Vowels elementary schools in Mt. Pleasant Mi. where I grew up, graduated from high school and then attended C.M.U.

It is a great honor that so many young people will enjoy these works, that so many eyes will activate these pieces of glass with their child energy. This attention will make the panes shine all the brighter. Hopefully this work will

be an inspiration to young artists, thinkers and dreamers, not to mention adding a much needed brightness to their school day.

I am proud to represent our tribe in something that will be viewed there in those hallways for years to come, stained glass can last a long long time, and every time a kid, a parent or a visitor goes to one of those schools, they will know that an Ottawa person made that art that they are looking at, that our tribe is still alive and living in the same world with them.

My kids have been watching me do this project at home. They are learning the process just by seeing it happen in their dining room. This is the same way I learned to do art, from my mother, watching her do different kinds of art projects, watching her eyes and hands move while she worked, watching the steps she took during each phase and which step led to the next. It reminds me that kids are learning from us all the time, just witnessing their parents doing what they do, every day, even without the lectures or obvious directions from spoken words, but by our actions, everything we do and what kinds of things we make happen in the world around them. I am glad that today these things my kids are learning from me are mostly positive, inspiring and will be a benefit to their lives. No one is perfect, but we have to do our best and keep trying.

*Thanks again Mom.*

*I love you.*

*Thanks again for  
teaching me the art of art.*







## MOONBEAR POTTERY & INDIAN ARTS



### Background

Over the years I have not only created and marketed my own art throughout the country, but I found time, even while attending college, to teach art to children and adults. I enjoy working with students of all ages; watching them turn a lump of clay into a work of art. I try to instill their personal experiences into a "record" of how they see things.

If you are interested in lessons, please contact me. Currently classes are being offered in pottery, sculpture, painting and drawing.

I am available for lectures on all the artistic works I specialize in, and also Native American art and culture. Native American stories are key elements to the lectures. I find young and old audiences enjoy the presentations. Formats for these lectures can be made specific to the groups involved. Hands-on workshops in clay, videos and slides are used to enhance the learning experience.

In May I delivered the commencement speech for the 2002 Graduation Ceremony for the Aabizikaawin Adult and Alternative Education school in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. It was held at the Soaring Eagle Conference Center.

In June I was on the cover of the Central Michigan University Alumni Magazine. It was a great honor to represent my university and I was thrilled to be chosen for the "creativity" issue.

I have been selected to be one of two "Indian Artist Liasons" for the Eiteljorg's Indian Art Market held each year at the Indianapolis Museum. This will be a two year term. The position will help connect the artists and the Eiteljorg staff during the June art market. Having liasons will aid in making the market run smoothly and adress the concerns of the artists participating.

I was chosen as "One of the Top 100 Students Who Attended Central Michigan University over the past 100 Years". This was a great honor. As I turned the pages, I recognized many people, then I turned the page once more, and saw myself!

### Lectures & Speaking Engagements

Shirley Brauker poses with her pottery, "A Horse Named Lightning Bear." Each of Brauker's pieces tells a story, often through the use of animal symbolism. She shared her techniques and style with students in Sitka, Alaska, recently as part of a visiting artists series in the small coastal town.

SITKA, Alaska — Local artist Shirley Brauker tells stories through her pottery.

Her style is unique, incorporating cut-

outs and animal images to weave tales of Native American lore, environmental significance and Brauker's personal memories.

Having gained some notoriety for her technique, Brauker recently had the opportunity to spend a week in the tiny fishing town of Sitka, Alaska, lecturing to college, high school and middle school students about pottery making and story telling.

The invitation came from University of Alaska professor Jamie Autrey, who uses a documentary featuring Brauker, "Woodland Traditions: The Art of Three Native Americans," in his art appreciation class.

"Shirley was a part of a group of three Native American artists from the woodlands traditions that a video had been made about back in the '80s," said Autrey. He looked her up through her affiliation with Central Michigan University.

Autrey characterized Sitka as a "pretty artsy community." And while it is small, he said it is "cosmopolitan," incorporating the cultures of the Native Americans, white folk, Russians, Mexican immigrants and Polynesian ancestors.

Because of the university, the scenery and the culture mix, Autrey and others encourage Sitka residents to soak up the aesthetic. Brauker was one in a series of artists that chose to visit the town this year.

Brauker and her boyfriend Bill Sattison left for Sitka Friday, Oct. 15, arriving on a precarious airport runway Oct. 16. The short runway necessitated a rather harrowing stop in which the pilot screeched on the brakes with the runway running out underneath the craft and the ocean the only sight from either wing.

"We continued forward until we reached the end of the pavement, and then squealed around a sharp turn on what seemed like two wheels. We taxied back to the terminal, and I gave a sigh of relief. The lady next to me was saying a prayer and crossing herself," said Brauker.

Sitka — population 8,500 — features the Sitka branch of the University of Alaska, some art shops and a smorgasbord of environmental treasures.

"We saw whales, eagles," said Brauker, who spend much of her days at Sitka's schools lecturing and the evenings conducting a week-long workshop at the university, called "Storytelling in Clay."

Sattison had more time for sight seeing. One day he hiked to the top of a mountain that acts as a scenic backdrop for the town. The adventure took five hours of climbing over rocks, pulling himself along by cables or ropes and crawling over slippery roots.

"I gave him my digital camera to take some pictures," Brauker said. "I can't imagine what he said when he got to the top and realized I had forgotten to put the batteries in the camera."

As Sattison communed with whales and took advantage of hiking trails, Brauker met some students interested in learning about her art form.

"It was really, really rewarding to give that information to those people," said Brauker. Her students carved their own pieces throughout

the week, anticipating a story-telling session on Friday when they would relate the tale their pottery told.

"I relayed stories on how I get my inspiration," Brauker said. Her ideas come from old legends, stories and the people and things she encounters in her life.

Possibly a piece of pottery will come from Brauker's Sitka experience. Located between Anchorage and Seattle, the island is nestled amongst seascapes and snow-topped mountains. A volcano is among the natural structures surrounding the town.

Bald eagles perch in trees, a common sight in the coastal town. Whales leap from the choppy ocean occasionally or throw spouts of mist from the water as the giant mammals come up for air.

The island also is the home to the National Totem Pole Park. There is an eclectic, primarily volunteer public broadcasting station, RAVEN, on which Brauker appeared on a show one day during her visit. She described the experience much like the "Northern Exposure" series, where the deejay speaks from a small, wood-framed booth in a run-down radio office.

Brauker said she thoroughly enjoyed the trip, bringing back plenty of mementos and four wooden carvings. Autrey reciprocated that by noting that her presentations were very much enjoyed by those who attended.

Moon Bear  
Shirley M. Brauker  
Little River Band Odawa

### Lectures

I did 2 presentations at the Little River Band of Odawa Indians annual "Language Camp" last year and may do more this summer.

I also presented a lecture at the Mashantucket/Pequot Nation in Connecticut on October 25th, 2008. This will be in conjunction with the traveling Native Women's Art exhibit: "Sisters of the Great Lakes"

Classes:  
Pottery, hand built and wheel thrown.  
Painting and drawing.  
Call to set up times.

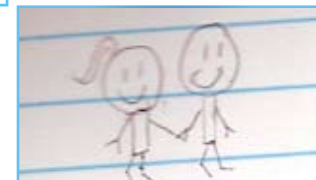
Shirley M. Brauker  
1048 Silver Road - Coldwater,  
Michigan 49036  
(517) 238-5833  
moonbear@cbpu.com





## STEP UP TO FITNESS!

COME JOIN US FOR THE  
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2009  
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PERDOMETERS, LOG BOOKS, ECT. PROVIDED  
ENJOY A GOOD HEALTHY MEAL.

WALKING REDUCES STRESS, HELPS YOU MAINTAIN A HEALTHY WEIGHT OR  
LOSE WEIGHT, IMPROVES YOUR FOCUS, PRODUCTIVITY, AND ENERGY LEVEL.  
IT CAN LOWER YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE AND STRENGTHEN YOUR BONES

## Commodities

Food Distribution Program ( FDPIR ) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Food Stamp Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month.

Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification. In determining who is eligible for the program.

We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

### Net Monthly Income Standards

October 1, 2008 & October 1, 2009

1. \$ 1,011.00
2. \$ 1,311.00
3. \$ 1,611.00
4. \$ 1,914.00
5. \$ 2,239.00
6. \$ 2,564.00
7. \$ 2,864.00
8. \$ 3,164.00

For each additional member add \$ 300.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M

Lunch hour is 12:00 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, George Lawrence, Laurie Jackson

1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program

Office # are 231-398-6715 or 231-398-6716

Come see  
the true  
culture of  
our people



Cultural Corridor  
Little River Casino Resort  
Manistee, Michigan





The staff of LRBOI Family Services Department, along with helpful family members, recently took part in the Adopt-A-Highway program by cleaning up roadside trash along M-55.

Adopt-A-Highway is a statewide program that this spring sent more than 32,000 volunteers out to scour the roadside for unsightly trash that has accumulated over the winter, according to MDOT. The annual Adopt-A-Highway pickup takes place April 18-26 and is the first of three pickups in 2009. The other scheduled pickups are July 11-19 and September 12-20.

Adopt-A-Highway is a great way to give back to the community. MDOT reports that last year volunteers eliminated nearly 72,000 bags of trash and saved taxpayers \$1.2 million in clean-

up costs, which in these hard economic times is a great savings in maintenance costs for Michigan.

If you were driving along M-55 the first week of May you may have seen Family Services folks in their stylish but highly-visible, yellow-green safety vests which volunteers are required to wear. The vests won't win any prizes for high fashion but they do keep volunteers safe. The vests are provided free of charge to all volunteers, in addition to the trash bags, which volunteers simply leave on the roadside after filling to be hauled away by MDOT or Manistee County Road Commission.

All types of organizations can participate in the pickup, but crew members must be at least 12 years old and each group needs three or more people, although more are encouraged to join in to help spread the work load. Groups agree to a two-year commitment of keeping their section of highway trash-free. In recognition of their efforts the groups get colorful Adopt-A-Highway signs along the roadway featuring their name. Participants are given a choice of two mile stretches of highway for pickup. The Family Services group chose M-55 from Nine Mile

Bridge Road to Claybank Road. They went out two different days after work and the total time it took to complete the job was approximately two hours. This seems a small commitment for such a great payoff as a clean landscape to enjoy as we travel around our beautiful state, not to mention the added reward volunteers get from feeling so virtuous for doing something good. They filled seven bags with litter which ranged from long lengths of nylon cord used in the paving process to decomposing road kill. The most common trash was empty cigarette packs, plastic and cardboard fast food beverage cups and fast food bags. Fast food is truly the gift that keeps on giving!

A new video called "Michigan's Big Clean Team" is available online for those interested in the program. The website is [www.michigan.gov/adoptahighway](http://www.michigan.gov/adoptahighway). So when you're traveling M-55 this summer look for the Adopt-A-Highway signs recognizing Family Services Department for their efforts. Megwich to all who participated for doing their part in keeping our landscape beautiful and our roadsides clean.

## Residential Lot Lease and Leasehold Mortgage Program

### Mission Statement

***"To promote affordable housing opportunities for all Little River Band Tribal Members."***

If you would like to take advantage of:

- Leasing property for \$1.00 per year.
- Save on sales tax on materials for building or remodeling.
- And not pay any property taxes.



Contact Chad Gehrke in the Housing Department to find out if you qualify 231.398.6708.

We have several lots within the Aki Maadiziwin development that are available to Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Citizens in the Leasehold Program.

Some of the advantages of leasing a lot at Aki are that it reduces the costs of procuring a new home by significantly reducing land costs normally involved in building a home. Rather than purchasing the land, Tribal members are being provided the opportunity to Lease the land for \$1.00 per year for up to 50 years. Resident Tribal members who build new homes at Aki or on other Trust Land qualify for a sales tax exemption on the purchase of materials for construction and/or remodeling your primary residence.

Materials affixed to the home by a contractor are also exempt from both the sales tax and use tax when they are purchased, used, or acquired in the performance of a contract for construction, renovation, or improvement of the primary residence of a Tribal Member within Trust Land.

*Note: Joint purchases by a resident tribal member and non-member spouse are limited to half of the 6% tax rate.*

*If you build on Trust Land, you can also be exempt from paying property taxes.*



## Native American Ministry - Muskegon

*July Summer Gathering  
Krause Park July 26  
11am - 3 pm  
Potluck-dish to pass  
Meat and rolls provided*

*Halloween Gathering  
Oct.18,2009 11-3pm  
St Thomas Hall 3252 Apple Ave  
Costume party*

*Ghost Supper  
Nov 1,2009  
11 am to 3 pm Sunday  
Potluck-Dish to pass  
Bingo-Door prizes-Raffles  
Patti-755-4865*

*Christmas Gathering  
Dec.6,2009 11 am to 3 pm  
St.Thomas hall 3252 Apple Ave  
Potluck - Dish to pass  
Santa for the kids  
Patti - 755-4865*

*Debra Gutowski-Director  
Native Ministry  
360 Division Ave. S.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616-243-0491 x 1517*





# Tribal member takes Coal fight to DC

Mskomini-Giizis (Raspberry Moon)  
July 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 6

*Editor's note: In late April, Tribal member Towana Yepa presented comments to the EPA on the Michigan Coal Rush and the impact on MI Tribes on President Obama's 100th day in office. She will also be speaking with MI Congressional Representatives and asking for congressional oversight on EPA regarding the issues Tribes face in the MI Coal Rush. Following are her comments:*

Good Afternoon

"My Name is Towana Yepa, I am a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians located in Manistee MI. Five years ago, my Tribe fought off a coal fired power plant that threatened to harm our peoples through CO2 emissions, a major greenhouse gas, and toxic pollution that threatens the health and welfare of our peoples disproportionately to others in MI. Today in Manistee, on my reservation, MasTech Manufacturing started operation just before Earthday this year and will create a 120 plus jobs in a growing industry, the renewable energy sector. This is what we need to get our economy going in MI and the United States, manufacturing jobs in a growing industry, not dead end jobs in a dirty coal plant.

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribes located within the territorial limits of the State of Michigan. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is also one of five federally recognized Tribes located in the 1836 Treaty Ceded Territories in Michigan. The five 1836 Treaty Tribes have established an inter-tribal fisheries entity, known as the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA), through which the Tribes collectively undertake efforts to manage and protect treaty-reserved fisheries resources and natural environment upon which those fisheries depend. I have a letter from CORA expressing their concerns on the 8 proposed coal plants in MI.

Coal Plants are the largest single source of CO2 and other greenhouse gasses.

This affects the health and welfare of our peoples, my community, especially our children and our elders. These are my relatives. CO2, greenhouse gasses and climate change can alter everything we know and love about Michigan beyond the historical experience of our peoples.

Coal Plants are some of largest sources of Mercury emissions.

15.3 % of white women of childbearing age tested had blood mercury levels above the health based reference dose compared to 31.5% of Native Women of childbearing age.

All of our 11,000 inland lakes have fish consumption advisories due to mercury contamination.

Our Traditional lifeways result in increased exposure and risks to our health from coal fired power plant contaminants in the Air, Water and Land.

I have a younger brother, Nimkiins, who is five now. My dad, uncles and all my relatives like to eat fish. When my dad was young, it was taught

to him that you always eat what you catch. This teaching has been with our peoples since time immemorial. With the development of coal fired power plants, mercury has found its way into Michigan's water systems and into the fish. Now when my little brother catches a fish, my dad cannot consciously feed him the fish that he caught, because it has mercury in it. My dad had my sister and I eat our first fish that we caught also.



Now that I am a woman of childbearing age, I cannot eat the fish in MI without endangering the life of future generations. This contradicts what our elders have always taught us to do, because our elders did not have to worry about contamination of this kind. This is the first generation in the history of my peoples that our young children and our women of child bearing age like myself, can no longer eat the fish given to us by the Creator to provide us with sustenance. The waters were clean and had their own natural systems to filter out anything harmful. In a place that holds 20 % of the worlds' fresh water, it is a bad idea to be burning coal because of all the harmful pollutants that will find its way into the ecosystem.

This disproportionate impact must be taken into consideration by the EPA before any of the proposed coal fired power plants in MI are permitted. Section 110 of the Clean Air Act ("CAA") requires states to develop air pollution regulations and control strategies—known as state implementation plans ("SIPs")—to ensure that state air quality meets the national ambient air quality standards established by EPA. Each state must submit their SIPs and SIP revisions to EPA for approval. Michigan's past SIP does not include review of sources subject to the PSD regulations (this review is known as the PSD construction permit program). EPA did, however, delegate

to Michigan the authority to issue PSD permits under the federal PSD regulations.

On January 9, 2008, EPA proposed to conditionally approve this request.

Final approval of the SIP revision has had significant implications for Michigan's Tribes. Most importantly, appeals of PSD permits no longer go through EPA. Instead, appeals would be in the form of administrative hearings before a state administrative law judge. Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Tribal Chief, Fred Cantu sent a letter asking EPA to hold off on issuing the final approval for Michigan's SIP revision until EPA has fully explained the effects the approval could have on Michigan tribes. There has been little clarity in EPA's response to the letter. The Michigan SIP was approved. Only one of the 8 proposed coal plants, Northern Michigan University has had its permit denied. The other coal fired power plants proposed in MI are not subject to the protections Tribes had under the EPA.

The effects are now known, the EPA Environmental Appeals Board which issued rulings in the Bonanza and Desert Rock case that were protective of Tribal members health, do not apply to the 7 other coal plants in MI. This leaves MI tribes subject to Michigan's SIP without the EPA protections. The EPA needs to assist the Tribes with technical assistance, demonstrate how MI's SIP is more protective of Tribal members health and welfare and fully address environmental justice issues before any permits are issued in MI. The basis for making this request comes from EPA's trust responsibilities.

In 1984, EPA became the first federal agency to adopt a formal Indian Policy of working with federally recognized tribes on a government-to-government basis. The United States has a unique legal relationship with tribal governments based on the constitution, treaties, statutes, executive orders, and court decisions. This relationship includes recognition of the right of tribes as sovereign governments to self-determination and an acknowledgment of the federal government's trust responsibility to the tribes.

EPA's Indian Policy entrusted the agency with the responsibility of supporting the role of Tribal governments in protecting the environment and public health in Indian Country. The policy was reaffirmed by Administrator Johnson in 2005. EPA's Indian Policy states that "[t]he keynote of this effort will be to give special consideration to Tribal interests in making Agency policy, and to insure the close involvement of Tribal Governments in making decisions and managing environmental programs affecting reservation lands."

EPA should explain how Michigan's PSD permit program will satisfy the trust responsibility that the federal government owes to the tribes. As it stands today, the Michigan SIP has left vulnerable Tribal populations without the protection afforded by the EPA trust responsibility.





*The Little River Band of Ottawa  
Indians invites you to the 16th Annual*  
**Anishinaabe Family Language / Culture Camp**  
Celebrating the unity of our language and culture  
Bring your nation flag and gift for the giveaway

Meals are provided  
Aanii piish  
Manistee Mi.

No registration fee  
Wenesh pii  
July 24, 25, 26 2009

Friday July 24  
Waabini Manidookewin (Sunrise ceremony)  
8:00 Opening Ceremony & Breakfast  
9:15-12:00 Presentations/workshops  
12:00 Lunch  
1:15-5:00 Presentations/workshops  
  
5:00 Dinner  
7:00 Jiingtamok/Pow wow

Saturday July 25  
Waabini Manidookewin (Sunrise ceremony)  
  
9:15-12:00 Presentations/workshops  
12:00 Lunch  
1:15-5:00  
Presentations/workshops  
5:00 Dinner

Sunday July 26  
Waabini Manidookewin  
(Sunrise ceremony)  
8:00 Breakfast  
9:15-12:00 Presentations/workshops  
12:00 Lunch, Give-away & Closing

Some presentations are: Cultural teachings, language learning, pipe teachings, natural medicines, drum making, hoop dancing, flute playing, basket making, hide tanning and games. These presentations and workshops are for all ages. We politely ask that English be the second language used at this camp. These presentations will be in both English and Anishinaabemowin. First come, first serve for the camping area. This great event will take place at the corner of M22 and US 31 across from the Casino. There are showers on site. Bring your Nation flag and we will display it to show the unity of our language and culture. We encourage every family to bring a gift for the giveaway.

*Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians of the Anishinaabe Nation And the Little River Casino Resort  
For more information please call Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant at 231-933-4406 or 231-590-1187  
or 231-398-6892*

*Terri Raczkowski at 231-398-6891*

*Email: kpheasant@lrboi.com or kennypheasant@charter.net*

*"Check out our website on Language Camp page" www.anishinaabemdaa.com*

And Don't Miss  
Saturday July 25th  
Crystal Shawanda performance at LRCR  
Doors open at 7:00 Performance at 8:00  
Meet & Greet after the show  
Tickets go on sale on May 9 2009  
For tickets call 800-585-3737 or go to  
www.startticketsplus.com

## Anishinaabemowin damnawin

### *Match the words to Anishinaabemowin*

#### Answers from last month (May)

Ninj	Hand
Ademin	Heart berry
Animokaajjinh	Dog
Jiingtamok	Pow wow
Ogema	Leader
Niin	I, me, myself
Aabta	Half
Giizis	Sun
Biiskowaagan	Coat
Noos	My father

#### Words for this month

Dopwin	Pencil
Binenhshiinh	Casino
Wiingash	Food
Mtig	Table
Zhibiiganaatig	Child
Gidaapkaagan	Bird
Mijim	Tree
Binojiinh	Picture
Mzinchigan	Sweet grass
Zhoonyaa taage gamik	Key







## GWEKWAADIZIWIN

By: Patrick Wilson

### "Honesty"

"Loon Clan"  
Maang



apologize to anyone it might have affected. Thank those who have been honest. When you ask someone to be honest with you, don't get angry with them if their honesty isn't what you wanted to hear. Know within yourself the mistakes you've made. Face them with the truth despite the consequences.

Being Honest is telling the truth, being straightforward in your conduct, being sincere, trustworthy, honorable, fair, genuine,

and loyal with integrity. Show and share your feelings, opinions in a kind, thoughtful way, express them positively as well as critically

Honesty as I see it, is speaking the truth, and when you speak the truth you feel in your heart no guilt of deceit or deception. In your mind and thoughts are true memories and new experiences, and not thoughts of fabrication and lies. Honesty is having integrity, high moral principles.

"Integrity is telling myself the truth. And honesty is telling the truth to other people." Quote by Spencer Johnson

In Peacemaking as with all of the Seven Grandfather Teachings, honesty is introspective in nature. Only by getting in touch with one's own feelings and being "honest" with yourself can you start to work on the issues at hand. Being honest with yourself takes courage, being unselfishness, and a willingness to rebuild your relationships.

Honesty, comes from within, for only you know what your word mean, their intent, their purpose. The true and honesty are part of your memories, lies and deception you make up. When you speak the true and with good thoughts in your heart you don't have to try and remember every word you say. Being honest can sometimes comes with a high price, but you will be rewarded with integrity and being a trusted friend that others will value your words

**Quote from the Seven Grandfather Teaching:** "Honesty: is to be honest in action and character, be faithful to fact and reality--to walk through life with integrity is to know honesty. Being truthful and trustworthy. Tell the truth. Accept and act on truths through straightforward and appropriate communication. Be honest in every action and provide good feelings in the heart. Do not be deceitful or use self-deception. Honesty keeps life simple.

Honesty in action expresses your real feelings without anger, without blaming others, without exaggerating, and without hurting the feelings of someone else. Admit a mistake or error in judgment you have made and

## Understanding Each Other - Peacemaking in Action

(Editors' Note: Many times, ignorance of our Native American/Indian customs and history has provided fertile ground for racism and negativity. We know because it has been experienced regularly among our people and community. What is interesting is that when presented with details on these subjects, understanding and acceptance starts to take hold. A small group of LRBOI government people have been going out to schools. Following is a message from Austen Brauker regarding a recent school visit.)

"The drum presentation at Jefferson Elementary had a great reception. There was participation from several youth drummers and adult members of the Swirling Winds Drum. The whole school gathered in the gym. I asked them to sit in a big circle. After we drummed there was a question and answer period where we fielded questions from the big group of first through third graders who were present. It was fun for everyone involved. The schools have been very supportive and the word is getting out that we are willing to share with them. We have done more presentations since the Jefferson event. Jay Sam and I did five presentations last week at the junior high for Mr. Jerry Brown's social studies classes. These went well too. It was a very positive exchange. The five presentations that day were all different, very organic and very personable. We let the discussion go where the kids wanted to go, for the most part and tried to get them involved in the process.

Peacemaking is trying to do outreach (coordinating with other departments as much as possible) and make a positive presence within the schools through educational presentations that

we call "community peacemaking". It is an effort supported by the Justice Center that brings greater awareness to our culture and presents us in a real and modern format as living people, not images frozen in time as a stereotype from a textbook. The kids get to see that we are real people and are living right here in the community. This approach brings peacemaking to those who do not understand Native culture, and hopefully, bridges a gap in understanding between the tribe and the non-native people of the Manistee area.

The approach is all about bringing people together. Instead of using the term "Race Relations" we have decided to use a philosophy better described as "Human Race Relations." I personally work from the premise that, first and foremost, we are all human beings, all equal, all of us brothers and sisters to the same earth mother. Peacemaking comes from a perspective that our similarities outweigh our differences, and that our differences make us beautiful and individual as distinct cultures. These differences should be celebrated, not used as something that might be divisive or a reason for conflict by any

means. Communication is the key to this goal. Peacemaking hopes to continue this proactive approach and make a positive impact through changes that occur in the mind, spirit and emotions, not just changes in people's outward (physical) behavior, but the real, deeper changes that happen inside where it counts.

It is part of our program to affect these areas of the medicine wheel in a good way. (Spiritual, Mental, Physical and Emotional). We hope to continue this traditional approach and bring it with us as a way to walk in balance through this modern world. People fear what they don't know. Building an understanding diminishes fear. It helps. It heals misperceptions and dispels prejudice. Anyone who is willing to participate in this effort, and has something to share that is congruent with this philosophy is welcomed by Peacemaking to be a part of these kinds of activities. (So, anyone who wants to help as a volunteer can give us a call or stop by our offices at the Tribal Justice Center.)"

Chi Miigwetch,  
Austen J. Brauker  
Peacemaking/Probation Department  
398-2240



## EAT HEALTHY AND PLAN HEALTHY MEALS

Please review February's food intake chart to assure you are eating the right amounts of food from each food group. If you are having difficulty eating the right foods, try to start eating healthy by taking small steps in balancing your food

### How to plan healthy meals:



#### Include fruits and/or vegetables at every meal

- Reach for a minimum of 5 servings per day for 7 or 8.
- Fruits and veg help you feel full and provide various nutrients to keep you healthy.



#### Include whole grains

- Examples include brown rice, whole wheat pasta, whole wheat bread and barley.
- Whole grains provide fiber to aid in digestion.



### Grains, fruits and vegetables should be the base of your meal.



- Whole grains, fruits and vegetables should cover at least 2/3 of your plate.
- Limit cakes, doughnuts and cookies as they have more fat and sugar and do not provide proper nutrients.

### Think of meat as a side dish.



- Meat, fish, poultry, eggs and low fat dairy products should cover no more than 1/3 of your plate.
- Limit yourself to 3 ounces cooked (about the size of a deck of cards) of meat.
- Note the daily intake of meat for 2000 calories is 5.5 ounces a day. You may require more or less in the meat group depending on your age and activity level. One quarter pound hamburger with cheese provides more than 6 ounces of meat and may be more than your bodies' daily requirement.
- When choosing meat, fish or chicken, think lean. Trim fat from beef and remove the skin from chicken.

## Joking Around

Two men were in a restaurant and ordered fish.

The waiter brought a dish with two fish, one larger than the other.

One of the men said to the other, "Please help yourself."

The other one said "Okay", and helped himself to the larger fish.

After a tense silence, the first one said, "really, now, if you had offered me the first choice, I would have taken the smaller fish!" The other one replied, "What are you complaining for; you have it, don't you?"



## Second Annual Nibbin (i.e. summer) Youth Camp New Information and Games



**When:** June 8-19, 2009 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m Mon. thru Fri.  
or July 27-Aug. 7, 2009 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m. Mon. thru Fri.

**Where:** Pow-Wow grounds Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Manistee Michigan



**Registration: Community Health Representatives at 231-398-6629 or toll free 888-382-8299 for registration packet. Permission slips and other paperwork must be filled out prior to the first day of camp.**

Ages 8-16 Campers will learn about healthy eating, portion sizes, reading food labels and many other topics on nutrition and exercise.

Play games, go on a hike, go swimming (hopefully in the new pool), make dream catchers and other crafts. Make a snow snake, and learn many indoor and outdoor games to stay active all year long.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided

There will be hours of fun and lessons to share. Good behavior is expected at all times so all participants may enjoy this opportunity.

There is no cost for this activity which is provided through Special Diabetes Program Initiatives and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Health Clinic





*Aanii,*

*Just a friendly reminder, We now have Tribal Logo wear in stock and all size Polos, jackets, fleece wear, sweaters, hoodies, hats of all sizes styles and shapes, including the Camo line!!!! Come and check out whats new at the Trading Post and while your here grab your gas and a pop for the road. Guarantee you'll get a welcome, smile and a thanks for stoppin in. See you soon!!!*

*Miigwetch*

*Little River Trading Post*

**Y.M. Shkigwaasange Alterations**

**Custom ribbon shirts (any size)**

**Skirts (any size)**

**Shawl's**

**Quilts**

**Other regalia per request**

**Call Yvonne McShane**

**@ 231-723-7250**

**email:**

**[ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com](mailto:ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com)**

## Attention Aki Maadzwin Lot Owners



Muschigon Construction, LLC  
is now available to construct  
your new turn key home.

**Muschigon**

Construction offers a  
variety of pre drawn custom home plans.

Let us help you through the whole construction  
process from pre planning to the final finish, including

financial assistance.

We can make building your new home a wonderful experience.

Trust Muschigon Construction... Your project\* Construction Company

ISO: Information available on Section #184 Indian Home Loans.

294 River Street  
Manistee,  
Michigan 49660  
Phone: 231-398-0800  
Fax: 231-398-0802



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## Comments or thoughts.

Hello, we, the Health Commission would like to hear from you.  
Please take a moment to give us your thoughts/ideas of what you  
think of the clinic.

We want to know what you think: the good and the bad.

Thank you

Please email to: [healthcommission@lrboi.com](mailto:healthcommission@lrboi.com)

or mail to:

Health Commission

PO Box 119

Manistee, Mi 49660

## Tribal Government Internships



Tribal Members interested in doing an internship with the  
L.R.B.O.I. Tribal Government Office please contact:  
Department of Commerce:  
231-398-6806





The Bureau of Indian Affairs is supportive of Green (Renewable) Energy efforts and through a grant with Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, our Tribal Planning Department under Dan Shepard has started some joint projects to determine the feasibility and needs of wind power generation.

The first phase of this current project was to look at all of our buildings in terms of renewable energy and also examine what's going to with the state and other entities. According to Shepard, "This starts with doing studies on how we can reduce costs and embrace renewable energy and incorporate that into our communities." "Also," he added, "we will look at cooperative agreements with other local units of government to look at zoning and creation of ordinances dealing with renewable energy." This project is putting into place some of the actions arrived at through the Manistee Envision project from several years ago.

This particular phase has involved the recent installation of Anemometers in the community. The first of which was installed behind the Manistee High School off 12<sup>th</sup> street in Manistee, MI.

The towers themselves are 60 meters tall (199 feet) and each contains three anemometers. The instruments are placed at 10 meter intervals so as to determine the best heights for installation of wind turbines so as to maximize their efficiency.

Shepard said that one of the reasons that a tower was placed at the school was "the need to educate" our young people about renewable energy and to make it part of their lives.

Andrew D. Huber, Principal of Manistee High School is excited about the project because he values the direct educational value of the

instruments for students. Every day students receive new sets of readings so that they can study the wind at MHS for an entire year and see how the seasons and weather affect the readings.

Huber added that, "We (the school) want to be on the forefront of necessary change and this project is generational." "It's really about changing the mindset of kids' long term and having this study means that we're doing it right," he said. Huber also pointed to the wonderful relationship between the tribe and the school and benefits to both communities.

Shepard also pointed out the value to area business and the potential of 'huge' growth in the Green industry.



## *Sunflower Does It Again!*



Sunflower Wilson has won the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Scholarship award for the second year in a row. Sunflower is the daughter of Alta and Pat Wilson and lives with her family in the Manistee Area.

Stephanie Ogren, from the Tribal Natural Resources Department said that, "We are extremely impressed with Sunflower, she took the initiative to apply for the scholarship a second year and was awarded it again. We are excited to have her back in the department. Last year she went above and beyond and often volunteered to work with other staff just for the experience. We look forward to seeing what she accomplishes this summer and in the future. She is one of the people that you know will make a difference.

The Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program is a summer mentoring program for high school students sponsored by the American Fisheries Society. The principal goal of the Hutton Program is to stimulate interest in careers in fisheries science and management among groups underrepresented in the fisheries professions, including minorities and women. Application to the program is open to all junior and senior high school students regardless of race, creed, or gender. Students selected for the program are matched with a professional mentor in their area for a summer-long, hands-on experience in a marine or freshwater setting. A scholarship of \$3,000 is awarded to each student accepted into the program.

The Wilsons commented, "We are very proud of our daughter Sunflower. She is working very hard, to reach her goal of becoming a biologist. Receiving the Hutton Award the first time, our daughter was so excited and thrilled, that she could be mentored by our Tribal Natural Resource Department. She was overjoyed to receive the Hutton Award for the second time, and she is looking forward to catching bugs and fish this summer. We would also like to thank Bob Olsen Superintendent of Manistee Public Schools for providing our daughter with exceptional teachers and the excellent education, making the receiving of this award possible and all the more special."

Sunflowers' program is scheduled to begin in June.



A little family history fun,  
With the launching of our tribes history book, I got to thinking.

So many tribal members do not have the history of their family's. I saw how everyone lined up for the Tribes history book. I thought there should be a way for families to improve their story telling of family history. I know I can read the book and as I see different situations I think of family stories

I heard that relate to them.

I bought a book from my children's school it is called "Fun Family Activities" in this book they have a suggestion for a Little Family history fun.

Your family's history is not just, what happened to your parents and grandparents in the "olden days", it is also what happened to you a year ago, a month ago, and even yesterday!

So keep track of your history, from the biggest to the smallest events, from the oldest to the most recent.

While you are recording and keeping track of family information, you can create some interesting history while you are at it.

Go through old photos. I know we have so many and they have a story to go with them. You can scan copies from your computer. Instead of just telling the story, write them down. Use them in your family history book.

Everyday of your life is a day lived in history.

**The Frybread  
Good Citizen  
award goes to...  
John Shepard &  
Heman Gamelin  
For building the  
handicap ramp!**

Yvonne Theodore & Garry King  
Send a  
(Big ThankYou) to  
John Shepard &  
Herman Gamelin  
For building the handicap ramp

Garry loves it guys, THANKS

Happy Birthday Happy  
Fathers Day Happy Fathers Day  
Kevin King Bruce King  
to all from the  
Rod Matthews Commodity Dept.  
Nicole K



**Happy 5th Birthday to Nathan Burkhart on May 7th!**

**We wish you lots of fun on your special day and can't believe how fast you're growing up!**

**Love always,  
Auntie & Uncle**

*Note: This submission was accidentally missed in the previous issue."*

## Congratulations on Graduation



Angie Turner completed her Bachelor's of Social Work at Central Michigan University on May 9th 2009.

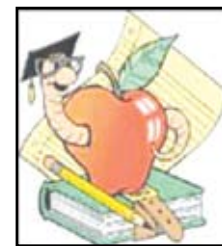
She was assisted in the graduation ceremony by her two children and her husband Mike Turner, Camera Guy for the event. Her Co-workers within the Family Services Department ask you to join them in wishing her Congratulation !!! on her efforts in the pursuit of a higher education, her continuing support for program efforts and commitment to the overall tribal community.

Way to go girl !!!!!

**"Congratulations to Diane  
Lonn, Enrollment Director  
for once again making the  
Dean's List at Ferris State"**

Congratulations Norbert Kelsey for earning your bachelor of science degree in Community Development/Public Administration from Central Michigan University! Your friends and family are so proud of you! Now on to law school!"

"Congratulations Grandpa Norbert!  
Love Elise and Elijah"



Nick Berentsen, Made the Dean's list at WSCC for this last semester. His mom, Kathy, and stepdad, Brian Gibson, are very proud of his accomplishment.



Happy belated 21st birthday for Nick on May 26!



Good news from the Natural Resources Department. Peggy Vriesman received her Associates Degree from West Shore this weekend. We are very proud of what she contributes to our Department and the Tribe. If you see her around, please give her a CONGRATULATIONS! Marty Holtgren



I am very pleased to extend congratulations to Christian Merz on behalf of the entire Health Services operation in honor of her recent graduation from West Shore Community College and the School of Nursing.

Christian has earned an Associates Degree in Nursing and will sit her State Board examination soon to attain licensure as a Registered Nurse. Health Services is very proud of Christian's determination, tenacity and willingness to stay the course and complete her degree. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to support this effort and believe that the purpose of our Tribal Community is to do exactly what was done for Christian; facilitate the professional growth and development of ONE OF OUR TRIBAL CITIZENS as they attain advanced training and skills that benefit all of us.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!**

Jessica L. Burger, RN  
Health Director  
Little River Band Ottawa Indians

Dear Tribal Members & Staff,

I'd like to give a huge thank you to health clinic employee Krystal Davis. Since she has been my health coordinator for the last few years and has consistently demonstrated great consideration and follow up when helping me with appointment scheduling, confirmation numbers, and other miscellaneous questions as they come up.

She is courteous and dependable, something I admire deeply in a tribal employee. I appreciate very much being called back when I leave a message, as I'm sure other tribal members do as well.

Krystal is a good example of professionalism and it gives me confidence in knowing that she's available to assist our tribal members in such a good way.

Many thanks to Krystal. If there's some sort of award or certificate that the Tribe bestows upon excellent employees, I believe she should of had it already!

Kindly,  
Melissa Zelenak Tribal Member 1239





Each year representatives from many government agencies and private firms gather in downtown Grand Rapids for the **Great Lakes Homeland Security Conference** at the DeVos Center. This year's conference was held from May 5<sup>th</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup>.

This gathering of Emergency Managers, Law Enforcement leaders, Medical response personnel, Tribal representatives, School personnel, Red Cross and others brings together people to receive training and information that will be useful for their own 'communities' response when and if a disaster or incident occurs.

This year, as expected, there was a lot of discussion over the 'Swine Flu' or as it was also known, H1N1 and its impact on the state of Michigan. The conference organizers were somewhat concerned that attendance would be down as various communities either hunkered down or were deployed in preparation for the possible Pandemic event. However, the numbers were quite high with over 1200 registered attendees.

From the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Tribal Emergency Planning Chairman Glenn Zaring, Tribal Emergency Management Coordinator Officer Janelle Lyrenmann and Public Safety Sgt. Vance Bates attended. Their attendance at this training was funded by a grant from the Regional DHS/MHS group. Each has been intrinsically involved in the tribes' efforts towards preparedness and response.

Zaring commented about the conference, "While the subjects and examples of threats and challenges are distressing, it is refreshing to be with other professionals who realize the potential problems and share a dedication to being part of the solution. Here we do not have to worry about convincing unbelievers that threats are real but can share in understanding of how we can help our communities, counties and nations."

Sgt. Bates added, "This conference is a well run, timely, and informative conference that brings together all disciplines in the Homeland Security Arena, from Law Enforcement to Public Health. It not only gives everyone a chance to get caught up on the latest "gadgets" at the Trade Show but allows everyone to interact get to know all the other players that come to the table in a disaster both Man-made and Natural. It allows you to see everyone else's role, hurdles they encounter and how it all fits in the "big picture" that allows a disaster to be prepared for and everyone's role executed with a minimum loss of life and damage to property. It is not a matter of if the next disaster

occurs it is when and positioning ourselves to be prepared as we can be. This conference gives us the tools and contacts to allow your tribal representatives to put the tribe in the best state of readiness for any disaster. It is ironic that some Tribal Governments did not allow their people to attend the conference because of the H1N1 flu event that was occurring at the time, but this conference helps prepare you for just such an event. There was a particularly good panel session that showed the great cooperation between the State Public Health System and Two Tribes in the UP of Michigan, and how they worked together for the betterment of both the State Population and the Tribal Community to prepare for a Pandemic Flu Emergency."

Also attending from the county were the County Emergency Management Coordinator Lt. Ken Falk, MSP Lt. Brian Postma and others.

## Great Lakes Fish Assessment Distribution Request

All Tribal Members interested in being on the fish distribution list are asked to update their address and phone number to be able to receive fish. You may update your name and phone number by coming into the NR Office or by doing one of the following below.

1. Fill out Fish Distribution Request Form below and mail in.
2. Call toll free at 1-866-723-1594
3. Email your name, Tribal ID, phone address information to [bharnish@lrboi.com](mailto:bharnish@lrboi.com).

### LRBOI Fish Distribution Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: LRBOI Natural Resource Department  
Attn: Bonnie Harnish, Adm. Assistant  
375 River Street  
Manistee, MI 49660



# Currents

You can find this and many other issues at [lrboi.com](http://lrboi.com)

Megwa Ezhiweback



Mskomini-Giizis (Raspberry Moon)  
July 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 6



#### Details:

20% discount off Tribal Passenger and Tribal Employee fares.

Vehicle fares and staterooms are not discounted.

Valid on any crossing.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call Michelle Lucas at 1-888-723-8288 ext 6804.

Discounts Valid  
May 9th 2009  
thru October  
12th 2009

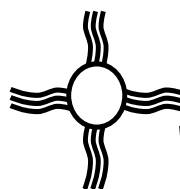
#### Note:

Your Tribal I.D card or Employee I.D. card must be presented at the ticket counter at the time of payment, in order to receive your discount.



For more information contact Yvette at (989) 775-4738 Anishinabemowin Clubs

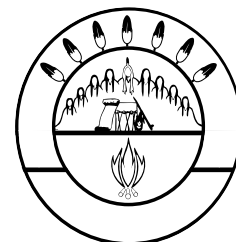
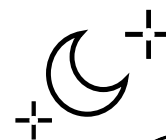
The Anishinabemowin Club will meet this month on June 10 from 5-7pm. Bring your little ones to the Lil' Language Warriors Club on June 11 from 4-5pm. No previous club participation is necessary. It's never too late to engage with the language!



## The Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians 14th Traditional Jiingtamok

#### Grand Entry Times

Session 1 @ 1pm  
Session 2 @ 7pm  
Session 3 @ 1pm  
on Sunday the 5th



GAACHINGZIIBIDA WAA ANISHINAABEK OGEMAKIDAAGEWIN  
**JINGTAMOK**

**THE RIVER**  
LITTLE RIVER  
GATHERING  
GROUNDS

**JULY 4TH AND 5TH**  
**EVERYONE WELCOME - NO ADMISSION**

more info call  
Terri or Valerie  
ext 6891 or 6895  
1 888 723 8288